GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2309
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2001
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHT COMMISSION
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Home Ministry hampering NHRC work` appearing in The Times of India dated October 26, 2001;

(b) if so, facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government is not willing to grant independence to NHRC which the Paris Principle of 1991 deemed imperative for its effective governance; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e): It is not correct to say as stated in the news item that the Home Ministry is hampering the work of the NHRC.The Government does not interfere in the performance of the functions assigned to NHRC under the protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. The NHRC enjoys independence and autonomy for carrying out the task assigned to it under the Act.

The NHRC has, however, sent a proposal suggesting a number of amendments in various sections of the protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. This proposal is being examined by the Government.